Case 1:05-cv-11045-GAO Document 16

16 Filed 08/17/2005 Page 1 of 2 **PROCESS RECEIPT AND RETURN** 

U.S. Department of Justice United States Marshals Service

See Instructions for "Service of Process by the U.S. Marshal" on the reverse of this form.

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AO 440 (Rev. 10/93) Summons in a Civil Action		
UNITED STA	ATES DISTR	LICT COURT
	District of	MASSACHUSETTS
MICHAEL BAEZ Plaintiff V.		SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE
MICHAEL MALONEY, ET AL.  Defendants	CASE	C.A. 05-11045-GAO
TO: (Name and address of Defendant)		
BRIAN McMANUS  DOUG TO RONGUS LE  TO LOX 80 DO  YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and I		pon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)
MICHAEL BAEZ, PRO SE  MCI CEDAR JUNCTION  TO BOX 100  50. Walpole, MA  2011-010  * or answer as otherwise required by the Federal	ට ණ eral Rules of Civil 1	Procedure.
an answer to the complaint which is herewith s summons upon you, exclusive of the day of serv you for the relief demanded in the complaint. Ya reasonable period of time after service.  SARAH ALLISON THORNTON	ice. If you fail to	days after service of this do so, judgment by default will be taken against your answer with the Clerk of this Court within
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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

MICHAEL BAEZ,
Plaintiff.

V.

Civil Action No. 05-11045-GAO

MICHAEL MALONEY, ET AL., Defendants

## ORDER ON APPLICATION TO PROCEED WITHOUT PREPAYMENT OF FEES

Now before the Court is plaintiff's Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit:

### **FINDINGS** The Court finds the following: Is plaintiff a "prisoner" as defined in 28 U.S.C. § 1915(h)? Α. $\boxtimes$ Nο Yes B. Is a filing fee, under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b), to be assessed at this time? 1. Yes 🗆 Plaintiff is obligated to pay the statutory filing fee immediately. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). (\$250.00 for a civil action or \$255.00 for a notice of appeal). 2. Yes An initial partial filing fee of **\$.80** is assessed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The remainder of the fee \$249.20 is to be assessed in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). 3. Yes $\square$ Plaintiff has proffered evidence of being without funds for six months and being currently without funds. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2), plaintiff is assessed an obligation to make monthly payments of 20 percent of the preceding month's income credited to the prisoner's account each time it exceeds \$10.00 towards the payment of the \$250.00 filing fee. 4. No □ Plaintiff is not assessed a filing fee at this time.

C.		screening pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915 and/or 28 U.S.C. § 1915A, which, of the following findings does the court make?							
	1.			that the complaint is frivolous, malicious, or fails ch relief may be granted?  as to the claims against defendant(s)					
	2.			d that the complaint seeks relief from a defendant nmune from such relief?  as to the claims against defendant(s)					
	3.	42 U.S.C. §	S.C. § 1997e, Sec. 7(g)(2):						
	ny defendant to reply to a complaint if it [the tiff has a reasonable opportunity to prevail on the								
		pleading req that the plair	urt first, determined that the complaint is sufficient to satisfy the quirements for stating a cognizable claim and, second, found intiff has a reasonable opportunity to prevail on the merits on ng claims in the complaint against one or more defendants?						
		a. Yes 🗆	The court ha	as so determined and found as to defendant(s)					
		b. No □							
		c. No 🗆	plaintiff will p	e court has determined that the likelihood that prevail on the merits falls short of the opportunity" standard of the statute, as to nst					
			☐ all defen	ndants					

	d. Canno	ot say								
		⊠ ⊠ ;	on the	ese que s again	estior st	ns on th		nt reco	a determin ord as to th	
			(	ORDEF	RS					
Basec	I upon the forego	oina it is	ORDER	ED:	_					
1.	May the applica		roceed w No	/ithout p	prepa	ayment	of fees	be GR	ANTED?	
2.	If a finding is ma subject to early			aph B a	abov	e, is it a	n provisi	onal fin	ding that	is
	Ye	es 🛛	No							
	If the above and days of the date account, or a sta perjury, showing without paymen plaintiff, the cou to modify parag	of this ( atement g eligibili t of as m rt will co	Order, eit signed b ty to prod nuch as f	ther a c by plaint beed in ound in	ertification tiff ur this at the third the thi	ed copy nder the action v agraph	of his/ pains without   B above	her pris and per paying a to be	on trust nalties of a filing fee assessed	or the
3.	Is it FURTHER clerk send a cop	by of this					-	•	, , ,	the
4.	Is it FURTHER Marshal serve a the plaintiff with	copy of	the com of service	plaint, s ce to be	sumr e adv	nons, a	and this by the l	order a	s directed	
				□。	nlv a	s to de	fendani	s		
5.	Is it FURTHER	ORDER	ED that t	he Cler as	k dis s to a nly as	miss co all defer	ertain cl	aims in	this actio	n ?
				Page 3	3					

6.	a.	Although defendant(s) may not have been served with a summons and complaint, are the defendant(s) invited but not required to file an answe to aid the court in reaching a prompt final disposition on the merits?					
	OR	No ☐ Yes ☒☒ as to all defendants ☐ only as to defendant(s)					
	b.	If the defendant(s) have been served with a summons and complaint, are the defendant(s) required to reply within the time specified in the summons?  No   Yes   only as to defendants  only as to defendants					
Dated	l: June	e 24, 2005  /s/ George A. O'Toole  GEORGE A. O'TOOLE  UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE					

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

MICHAEL BAEZ, Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 05-11045-GAO

MICHAEL MALONEY, ET AL., Defendants

#### MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

O'TOOLE, D.J.

In his Complaint, Plaintiff has requested appointment of counsel. This request for appointment of counsel is denied without prejudice.

It is well settled that the decision to appoint counsel is discretionary, and neither a civil litigant nor a habeas petitioner has a constitutional or statutory right to appointed counsel.

Dellenbach v. Hanks, 76 F.3d 820, 823 (7th Cir. 1996), cert. denied. 519 U.S. 894 (1996);

Jackson v. Coalter, 337 F.3d 74 (1st Cir. 2003)(state prisoner had no right to counsel to collaterally attack sentence). In order to qualify for appointment of counsel, a party must be indigent and exceptional circumstances must exist such that the denial of counsel will result in fundamental unfairness impinging on the party's due process rights. See DesRosiers v. Moran, 949 F. 2d 15, 23 (1st Cir. 1991). See also Manisy v. Maloney, 283 F. Supp. 2d 307, 317 (D. Mass. 2003)(Memorandum and Order on Report and Recommendation of Magistrate Judge Dein, adopted (on the denial of counsel issue) by Judge Stearns by Memorandum and Order (#32) dated September 4, 2003 in C.A. 01-11849-RGS). In determining whether there are exceptional circumstances sufficient to warrant the appointment of counsel, a court must examine the total situation, focusing on the merits of the case, the complexity of the legal issues, and the litigant's

ability to represent himself. DesRosiers, 949 F. 2d at 23-24 (citations omitted).

While the Court finds that the Plaintiff in this action has demonstrated that he is without sufficient funds to retain counsel, he has not yet demonstrated the kind of "exceptional circumstances" that warrant appointment of counsel in this action. Petitioner merely requests "a law firm be appointed" but does not provide any facts whatsoever to justify a *pro bono* appointment of counsel. There is no indication here that the Plaintiff is unable to represent himself competently due to lack of mental capacity or lack of understanding of the English language. In fact, Petitioner's pleadings to date appear to be well-organized and coherent, suggesting a proficiency in the English language and at least some familiarity with legal terms and prison law. The mere fact that he is a prisoner and is proceeding *pro se* is insufficient to call for appointment of counsel, because such assertions essentially could be made by any prisoner litigant. Further, Petitioner has not shown that this case raises novel or complex issues of law.

Absent such indications, appointment is not warranted at this time, and the request is Denied.

The denial of the request, however, is without prejudice to renew after the Defendants have filed a response to the Complaint. If the Plaintiff wishes to renew his request, he must file a "Motion for Appointment of Counsel" setting forth the exceptional circumstances which he alleges exist in this case which would support the motion.

Dated: June 24, 2005

/s/ George A. O'Toole

GEORGE A. O'TOOLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE